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finest acoustical instruments in the world, but as an investigator of great originality and distinction, and author of numerous memoirs on acoustics. In his *atelier* on the Quai d'Anjou he lives and works in seclusion, surrounded by his instruments, even as our own Faraday lived and worked amongst his electric and magnetic apparatus. Besides the great tonometer, his colossal masterpiece, Dr. Koenig's collection includes several large wave sirens and innumerable pieces of apparatus in which his ingenious manometric flames are adapted to acoustical investigation. There also stands his tonometric clock, a time-piece governed, not by a pendulum, but by a standard tuning-fork, the rate of vibration of which it accurately records.

The final chapters of the volume deal with "Manners and Customs of the Mchaves," by George A. Allen; "Criminal Anthropology," by Thomas Wilson; "Color Vision and Color Blindness," by R. Brudenell Carter; "Technology and Civilization," by F. Reuleaux; the "Ramsden Dividing Engine," by J. E. Watkins; "Memoir of Elias Loomis," by H. A. Newton; and a memoir of "William Kitchen Parker." The life and work of Elias Loomis form no mean portion of the wealth of Yale University, and he published 164 contributions to astronomy, meteorology, and other branches of scientific research. He was a man possessed of considerable scholarship, of positive convictions, and of a willingness to follow at all hazards wherever truth and duty, as he conceived them, might lead. Professor William Kitchen Parker was born at Dogsthorpe, near Peterborough, June 23, 1823, and died suddenly of syncope of the heart July 3, 1890. He was a fellow of the Royal, Linnean, Zoölogical, and Royal Microscopical Societies; and honorary member of King's College, London, the Philosophical Society of Cambridge, and the Medical Chirurgical Society. He was also a member of the Imperial Society of Naturalists of Moscow, and corresponding member of the Imperial Geological Institute of Vienna and the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. In 1885 he received from the Royal College of Physicians the Bayly medal, "*Ob physiologiam feliciter excultam.*" He was

"an unworldly seeker after truth, and loved by all who knew him for his uprightness, modesty, unselfishness, and generosity to fellow-workers, always helping young inquirers with specimens and information; he was suddenly lost to sight as a friend and father, but remains in the minds of fellow-workers, of those whom he so freely taught, and of his stricken relatives, as a great and good man, whose beneficent influence will ever be felt in a wide-spreading and advancing science and among thoughtful and appreciative men in all time."

MARY PROCTOR.

St. Joseph, Mo., Sept. 9.

Trees of the Northern United States. By AUSTIN C. APGAR. New York, American Book Co. 224 p. 12°. \$1.

THE ground covered by this handy volume is the study, description, and determination of the wild and cultivated trees found east of the Rocky Mountains and north of the southern boundaries of Virginia and Missouri. Its author, who is professor of botany in the New Jersey State Normal School, was evidently governed in its preparation by the idea that, while it can hardly be expected that the great majority of people will ever become scientific in any line, it is possible to induce nearly every pupil to become interested in and fully acquainted with such things, for instance, as the trees of his neighborhood. The plan of the work, therefore, is such as to first arouse the pupil's interest in the subject, and then to satisfy the consequent desire for information, attention being mainly directed to the leaves, the wood, the bark, and, in an elementary way, the fruit. These are the parts that must be thoroughly known by all who wish to readily recognize trees, and they, or most of them, may be found and studied throughout the greater part of the year. Though the book may be open to adverse criticism when viewed from the standpoint of the advanced botanists, it should be borne in mind that it is not written for them, but for the average teacher who has had no strictly scientific training. We may add that the illustrations are numerous and well adapted for the purpose in view.

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